

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6862

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7879

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PARM, PK, CA,

SUBJECT: PAK/CANADIAN NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS

REFERENCES: A) ISLAMABAD 7609, B) ISLAMABAD 7703,

1. CANADIAN FIRST SECRETARY STOCKWELL TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST SECOND THAT CANADIAN NEGOTIATING TEAM HAD LEFT FOR OTTAWA OVER THE WEEK-END WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON KANUP STILL DEADLOCKED. PAKS REJECTED ALL THREE POSSIBLE CANADIAN OPTIONS (REF A). AGHA SHAHI CONTINUED TO PUSH LINE THAT OPTION ONE, WHICH INVOLVED CANCELLATION OF REPROCESSING PLANT BUY (ONLY OPTION ON WHICH CANADIAN TEAM WAS AUTHORIZED TO INITIAL AGREEMENT) WAS UNACCEPTABLE SINCE IT MEANT A DEROGATION OF PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. THIS OPTION WAS EVEN MORE DISTASTEFUL TO GOP SINCE IT WOULD INVOLVE BACKING OFF FROM AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH JUST BEFORE NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN PAKISTAN.

2. SECOND OPTION, INVOLVING FIVE YEAR GUARANTEED SUPPLY FOR KANUP IF GOP AGREES TO FULL SAFEGUARDS ON KANUP INCLUDING ALL MATERIAL GOING IN AND COMING OUT OF PLANT, CONFIDENTIAL

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UNACCEPTABLE TO GOP SINCE IT CANNOT AGREE TO CANADIAN

VETO OVER USE OF NON-CANADIAN ORIGIN FUEL FOR THE POWER PLANT. THIRD OPTION, INVOLVING ONLY TWO YEAR SUPPLY FOR KANUP AND TIGHTENED SAFEGUARDS, REJECTED BY GOP SIDE SINCE IT WOULD MEAN RETURNING TO NEGOTIATING TABLE IN ONLY ONE YEAR TO BEGIN TALKS ON NEW AGREEMENT.

3. PAK TEAM PROPOSED THAT GOC AGREE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPLY KANUP EVEN AFTER PRESENT AGREEMENT EXPIRES, UNTIL NEW AGREEMENT REACHED. CANADIAN TEAM SAID THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE. PAK TEAM THEN TABLED TWO PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CANADIANS. GOP WILL SIGN AGREEMENT ALONG LINES DISCUSSED IN OTTAWA, AND ALSO CONCUR IN INCLUDING AN EXPLICIT EXCLUSION OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS USING KANUP MATERIAL, IF GOC AGREES TO EITHER (A) A FIVE YEAR IRON-CLAD GUARANTEE OF FUEL SUPPLY FOR KANUP, OR (B) A FUEL SUPPLY AGREEMENT LASTING THE LIFE OF KANUP WITH AN UNDERSTANDING THAT IF PAKISTAN EXPLODES A NUCLEAR DEVICE USING MATERIAL FROM ANY SOURCES, GOC HAS RIGHT TO TERMINATE THE AGREEMENT. BOTH PAKISTANI PROPOSALS OBVIOUSLY UNACCEPTABLE TO CANADIANS.

4. DURING FORMAL DISCUSSIONS, AGHA SHAHI CONTINUED TO PRESS VERY HARD LINE. HOWEVER, DURING A LUNCHEON CONVERSATION HE SAID GOP COULD NOT CONSIDER GIVING UP REPROCESSING PLANT UNLESS ITS SECURITY CONCERNS WERE MET. HE ADDED, AND CANADIAN SIDE CONCURRED, THAT LONG-RANGE QUESTION WAS SECURITY NEEDS OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES AND IF THOSE NEEDS COULD BE MET AGREEMENT ON OTHER ISSUES WOULD BE EASIER. SHAHI SPECIFICALLY SAID HE WAS VERY SKEPTICAL USG COULD MEET PAKISTAN'S SECURITY NEEDS AND "A COUPLE OF SQUADRONS OF AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT."

5. STOCKWELL NOTED PAKS CONTINUED TO IMPLY GOC AND USG WERE WORKING TOGETHER ON THEIR APPROACH TO REPROCESSING ISSUE. CANADIAN TEAM ASSUMES THEY WILL NOT HEAR BACK FROM GOP UNTIL PAKISTANIS CAN ASSESS OUTCOME OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT.
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